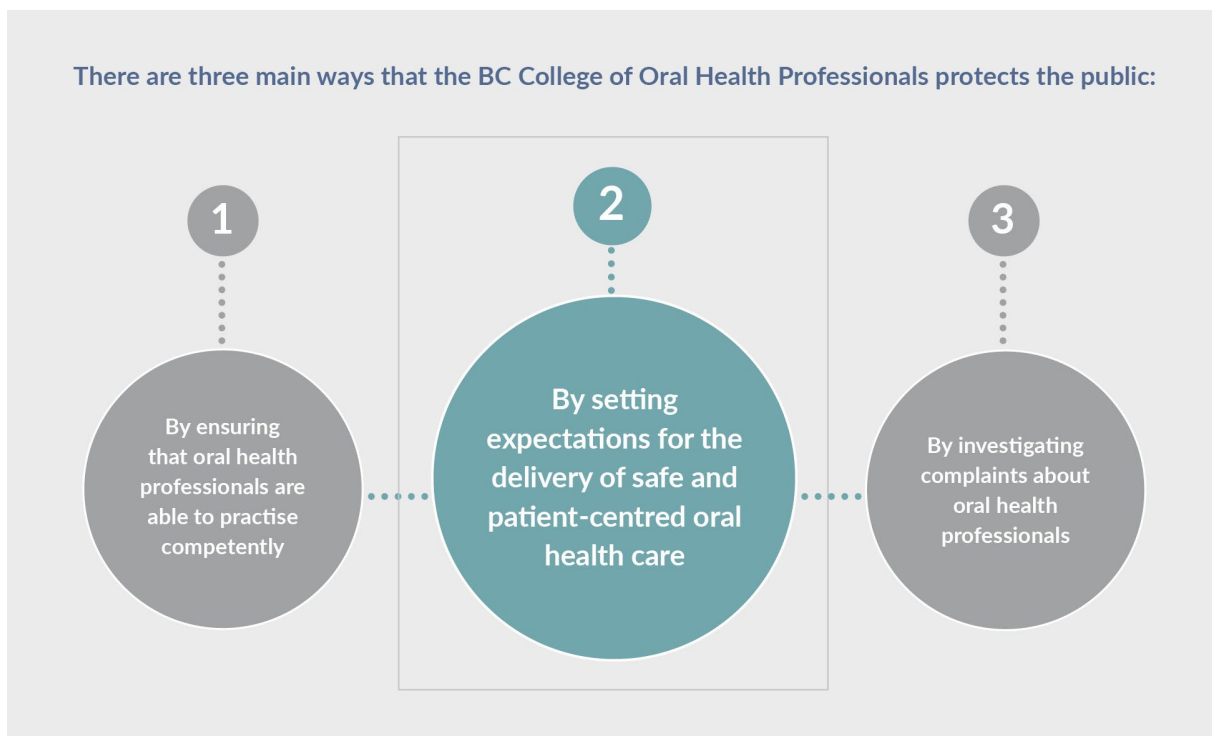


Expectations for clinical and ethical practice

Standards of Practice

Applies to Dentists, Dental Therapists, and Certified Dental Assistants

There are three main ways that the BC College of Oral Health Professionals protects the public:



The British Columbia College of Oral Health Professionals (BCCOHP) was created on September 1, 2022 through the amalgamation of four health regulatory colleges: the College of Dental Hygienists of BC, the College of Dental Surgeons of BC, the College of Dental Technicians of BC, and the College of Denturists of BC. All current requirements for standards of clinical and ethical practice issued by the four colleges remain in place upon amalgamation. This document was created by the College of Dental Surgeons of BC and will be updated to reflect the amalgamation.

Standards of Practice

The following standards describe the responsibilities of dentists, dental therapists and certified dental assistants (CDAs) in providing dental care to the public in B.C.

1 Patient-Centred Dental Care

- Put the interests of patients before the interests of the dentist, dental therapist or CDA in providing safe, professional, quality patient care.
- “Do no Harm”.
- Respect the patient’s right to confidentiality.
- Respect the patient’s right and ability to make informed choices regarding dental care.

2 Unique Body of Knowledge

- Base dental practice on a unique, scientifically based body of knowledge and expertise.
- Practise according to evidence-based and peer-supported principles.

3 Competent Application of Knowledge

- Competently apply knowledge in assessing, treating and managing the care of the patient.
- Assess outcomes of care provided where possible.
- Maintain competence by undertaking continuous learning and professional development.

4 Professional Ethics

- Practise in accordance with the ethical guidelines for the profession.

5 Professional Responsibility and Accountability

- Maintain accountability in the public interest.
- Ensure that practice meets the legislative requirements and professional standards of the profession.
- Assume primary responsibility for maintaining own competence and fitness to practise.

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